

Message Text

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FOLL REPEAT MEXICO 4450 ACTION SECSTATE 22 MAY 75:

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 4450

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TAGS: AORG, WCIWY, UN, MX

SUBJECT: MEXICAN WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING IN PREPARATION OF IWY

SUMMARY: EMBOFF ATTENDED MAY 16, 1975 WORKING GROUP MEETING OF INSURGENCIA DE LA MUJER. INSURGENCIA IS PREPARING (1) A DOCUMENT WHICH WOULD, BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE, CREATE A WOMEN'S INSTITUTE, AND (2) A SERIES OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS TO BE DELIVERED TO WCIWY, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, CERDS, SELA, AND ALL MEASURES WHICH CAN HELP MEXICO RID ITSELF OF ITS DIFFICULTIES, WHICH IN INSURGENCIA'S OPINION, ARE LARGELY DUE TO CAPITALIST IMPERIALISM. VARIOUS ANTI-AMERICAN REMARKS WERE MADE DURING THE MEETING, AS THE SPEAKERS DID NOT REALIZE THAT ANY NON-MEXICAN NOR INDEED U.S. EMBASSY PEOPLE WERE PRESENT. END SUMMARY

1. MAY 16, 1975, EMBOFF ATTENDED WEEKLY WORKING GROUP

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MEETING OF THE "INSURGENCIA DE LA MUJER" AT THE HEAD-

QUARTERS OF THE ANO INTERNACIONAL DE LA MUJER.
ALTHOUGH EMBOFF IDENTIFIED HERSELF TO A RECEPTIONIST
UPON ENTERING, SPEAKERS DURING THE MEETING WERE NOT
AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF NON-MEXICAN, INDEED U.S.
EMBASSY OFFICER.

2. THE INSURGENCIA, A GROUP COMPOSED LARGELY OF
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN AND DIRECTED BY SILVIA HERNANDEZ,
A POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATE OF UNAM, WAS PRESENT
AT THE GUANAJUATO CONFERENCE IN MAY 1975, AND AS A
RESULT OF ITS DISPLEASURE WITH WHAT IT CONSIDERED TO BE
THE IMPRACTICAL POLEMICS OF THAT MEETING, DECIDED TO
DIVIDE ITSELF INTO WORKING "TABLES" FOR THE PURPOSE OF
FORMULATING SPECIFIC ACTION PROPOSALS THAT WOULD
MAKE ITS PRESENCE KNOWN IN A POSITIVE WAY DURING WCIWY.

3. AT THIS MEETING, ATTENDED BY APPROXIMATELY 20
WOMEN, THE MAIN TOPICS OF DISCUSSION WERE THE REPORTS
OF THE LEGAL AND POLITICAL "TABLES" OF THE INSURGENCIA.
THE LEGAL TABLE PRESENTED A DOCUMENT WHICH IT HOPES
TO HAVE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH A PRESIDENTIAL DECREE.
THIS DECREE WOULD CREATE THE INSTITUTO DE LA MUJER
(WOMEN'S INSTITUTE) WHICH WOULD ADMINISTER ALL PUBLIC
MATTERS RELATING TO WOMEN, E.G. THEIR ADVANCEMENT
IN EDUCATION AND THE SUPPRESSION OF ADVERTISEMENTS
DENIGRATING TO FEMALES. INSURGENCIA CONSIDERS THIS
DOCUMENT TO HAVE A STRONG POSSIBILITY OF GAINING
ACCEPTANCE SINCE ATTORNEY-GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA,
MEXICAN COORDINATOR OF WCIWY, HAS BEEN DESIGNATED
BY GOM TO LEND HIS GOOD OFFICES TO THE INSURGENCIA
IN ITS DESIRE TO CONTACT GOM OFFICIALS DURING IWY.

4. THE POLITICAL TABLE, EXPRESSING ITS DESIRE TO
DELIVER A SERIES OF RESOLUTIONS TO THE WCIWY, RATHER
THAN SPONSORING ANY WOMEN'S DEMONSTRATIONS, IS PRE-
PARING A DOCUMENT, WHICH WILL REFLECT INSURGENCIAS
DESIRE TO HELP MEXICO LIFT ITSELF OUT OF THE WEAK
POSITION IT PRESENTLY EXPERIENCES AS A RESULT OF
"FOREIGN IMPERIALISM" AND "DOMESTIC OLIGARCHIC
DOMINATION." THE LANGUAGE OF THE INSURGENCIA DIRECTOR
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SILVA HERNANDEZ WAS HIGHLY MARXIAN IN STYLE, INCLUDING
REFERENCE TO THE "PETITE BOURGEOISIE," THE "PROPERTY-
LESS MASSES," AND THE FACT THAT MOST OF MEXICO'S
PROBLEMS ARE CAUSED BY THE CLASS STRUCTURE HERNANDEZ
STRESSED INSURGENCIA'S SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA,
CERDS, SELA, AND ABOVE ALL, THE WORKING CLASS.
INSURGENCIA ALSO HOPES TO INCREASE WOMEN'S ELECTORAL
PARTICIPATION.

5. AT THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING, THE POLITICAL
TABLE WILL BE EXAMINING ADDITIONAL MEASURES IT MAY
TAKE DURING WCIWY SO THAT MEXICO WILL NOT MERELY HAVE
BEEN A HOST BUT AN ACTIVE CONTRIBUTOR TO INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S YEAR.

6. COMMENT: EMBOFF WAS IMPRESSED BY THE DEGREE OF
SUPPORT EXPRESSED BY THE RANK-AND-FILE MEMBERS OF
INSURGENCIA FOR THE PROPOSALS PRESENTED BY SILVIA
HERNANDEZ. SAID PROPOSALS FAVOR THE POLICIES OF
ECHEVERRIA AND THE RPI. IT SEEMS, THEREFORE, THAT
INSURGENCIA IS SPECIFICALLY PRO-PRI, ALTHOUGH IT
CLAIMS TO BE INTERESTED IN INCREASING PUBLIC PARTICI-
PATION IN POLITICAL PARTIES IN GENERAL.
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